

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

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INFO USMISSION NATO

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USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0048

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: CONVERSATION WITH POLISH REP STRULAK ON JUNE 7, 1974

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: US DEPREP HAD DISCUSSION JUNE 7 WITH POLISH REP STRULAK AND VISITING POLISH OFFICIAL DR STAWOMIR DABROWA, DEPUTY HEAD OF THE SECTION OF POLISH FOREIGN MINISTRY WHICH IS CONCERNED WITH CSCE AND MBFR. STRULAK STRESSED INTENSE DESIRE OF POLES, MOTIVATED ON PSYCHOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL GROUNDS, TO HAVE FEDERAL GERMAN REDUCTIONS FROM THE OUTSET. HE DEVELOPED STANDARD CASE FOR EASTERN POSITION, IN ADDITION MAKING A FEW INTERESTING OBSERVATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. STRULAK SAID EAST HAD NOW RECONCILED ITSELF

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TO THE IDEA THAT THERE WOULD BE TWO SEPARATE

REDUCTION PACKAGES OR AGREEMENTS. THE ISSUE NOW BECAME WHAT WOULD BE THE CONTENT OF THESE PACKAGES, MEANING BOTH WHO WOULD REDUCE AND BY HOW MUCH. US DEPREP SAID ONE SHOULD FIRST DEVELOP THE ANSWER TO THE AGREED QUESTION OF WHOSE FORCES SHOULD BE REDUCED FROM THE OUTSET WHICH REMAINED RELEVANT. STRULAK STRESSED THAT EAST HAD BEEN VERY FLEXIBLE AS REGARDS ITS SYMBOLIC REDUCTION PROPOSAL, ESPECIALLY IN SEVERING IT FROM THE MAIN PROPOSAL. HE NOTED THAT KHESTOV HAD EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS ON THE PART OF EAST TO DISCUSS THE TIMING OF IMPLEMENTATION OF SYMBOLIC REDUCTIONS. IT WOULD NOT BE NECESSARY FOR ALL TO ACTUALLY REDUCE FROM THE OUTSET. THE ISSUE WAS A DECISION AT THE OUTSET TO REDUCE, WITH SOME INDICATION OF WHEN AND BY HOW MUCH. THERE WOULD NOT HAVE TO BE MANY. BUT POLISH NEGOTIATORS HAD TO FACE A PUBLIC OPINION WHICH EXPECTED AND WANTED GERMAN REDUCTIONS. HOW COULD THEY EXPLAIN THEIR ABSENCE.

3. US DEPREP GAVE REASONS WHY THIS WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE. STRULAK THEN ASKED WHETHER IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO COMPROMISE AS TO THE NUMBER OF DIRECT PARTICIPANTS AND TO HAVE ONE OR TWO OF THEM ON EACH SIDE (NOT SPECIFIED) IN ADDITION TO US AND USSR. US DEPREP SAID THIS WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE BECAUSE IT WAS IMPORTANT ISSUE OF PRINCIPLE FOR WEST THAT USSR AND US SHOULD REDUCE FIRST.

4. IN COURSE OF CONVERSATION, STRULAK STATED THAT IF WEST WAS READY FOR FREEZE, IT SHOULD BE READY FOR SMALL SYMBOLIC REDUCTIONS. US REP POINTED OUT DIFFERENCE. AT ANOTHER POINT, STRULAK SAID THAT FREEZE ON MANPOWER WAS NOT ADEQUATE. THERE SHOULD ALSO BE A FREEZE ON EQUIPMENT. RESOR

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